

Art Unit: 1647

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Examiner's Comments***

It is noted that the species election requirement set forth in the Non-Final Rejection of 16 April 2007 is *withdrawn*. The species of NS-specific antigens are rejoined. Thus, claim 43, originally withdrawn from consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species in the Office Action of 16 April 2007, is hereby rejoined to pending claims 1-5, 7, 9-13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 25, 31-34, 39, and 45-49.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bridget E. Bunner whose telephone number is (571) 272-0881. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Manjunath Rao can be reached on (571) 272-0939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BEB

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18 June 2008

/Bridget E Bunner/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1647